# CHAPTER 2. BASIN CHARACTERISTICS

## 2.1 DRAINAGE BASIN

### 2.1.1 Subbasin Boundaries and Characteristics

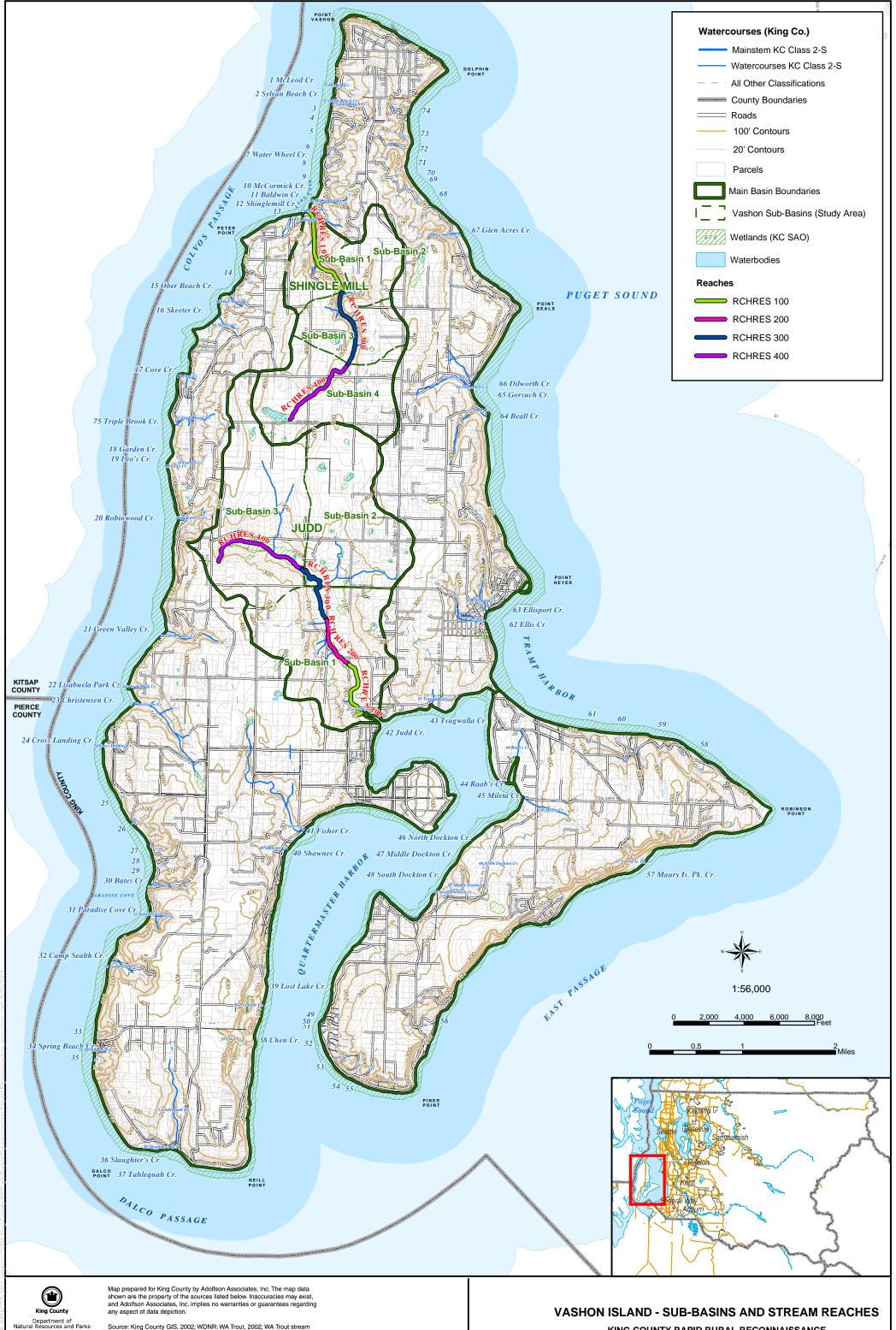
A detail investigation of all of Vashon-Maury Island could not be made at this time because of budgetary constraints. Judd Creek and Shinglemill Creek basins were selected for a detail investigation because they are the largest basins on the island and are experiencing the most growth problems.

Judd Creek and Shinglemill Creek basins were subdivided into a total of seven subbasins, three in the Judd Creek Basin and four in the Shinglemill Creek Basin. These were delineated based on available topographic information and discussion with King County staff on critical areas where simulated flow rates needed to be evaluated. Figure 2-1 shows the subbasins and stream reaches used for the basin characterization of Judd Creek and Shinglemill Creek. There are approximately 30,300 feet of Class 2 stream in the Judd Creek basin and approximately 19,000 feet in Shinglemill Creek basin. Table 2-1 summarizes the area of each of the subbasins.

TABLE 2-1.							
VASHON-MAURY ISLAND SUBBASIN							
AREAS							
Subbasin Area (acres/Sq. Mi.)							
Judd Creek Basi	n						
1	1,080						
2	998						
3	1,214						
Total	Total 3,292/5.14						
Shinglemill Cree	ek Basin						
1	316						
2	310						
3	419						
4	801						
Total 1,846/2.88							
Vashon & Maury Island Area is 36.7							
SC	quare miles						

#### Judd Creek Subbasin 1

Judd Creek Subbasin 1 is the most downstream subbasin in the Judd Creek Basin and covers 1,080 acres. Elevation in the subbasin ranges from sea level at the creek's outfall into Puget Sound to about 140 feet near 107<sup>th</sup> and 216<sup>th</sup>). The creek forms the central corridor with steeply rising land on both sides. Due to channel variability, the creek was divided into three segments in this subbasin. Judd Creek's slope ranges from about 1.6 to 2.4 percent in Subbasin 1 and has approximately 12,500 feet of Class 2 stream.



Department of Natural Resources and Parks Water and Land Resources Division

Source: King County GIS, 2002; WDNR: WA Trout, 2002; WA Trout stream types 2 and 3 (WAS 222-16-031) shown as King County Class 2 with salmonids (KCC 21A.06.1240).

KING COUNTY RAPID RURAL RECONNAISSANCE

Date Last Revised: 01\05\04 File Name: VASHON\_STRMRCHES

Figure 2-1

#### Judd Creek Subbasin 2

Of the three Judd Creek subbasins, Subbasin 2, the 998-acre drainage area of a tributary to Judd Creek, has the most cleared land and development. Elevation varies from about 140 feet to 400 feet. There is approximately 7,600 feet of Class 2 stream in Subbasin 2.

#### Judd Creek Subbasin 3

Judd Creek Subbasin 3 covers 1,214 acres in the west-central portion of the basin. This subbasin contains a large wetland area that forms the headwaters to Judd Creek. It is a hilly area varying in elevation from about 180 feet to about 440 feet. This subbasin presently contains the largest forest coverage and approximately 10,200 feet of Class 2 stream. SW Cemetery Road crosses east to west through the lower third of the subbasin. The wetland portion has about a 0.5-percent longitudinal slope as it drains west to form Judd Creek.

## Shinglemill Creek Subbasin 1

Shinglemill Creek Subbasin 1 covers 316 acres and includes the outfall of Shinglemill Creek as it flows into Puget Sound at Fern Cove. The subbasin is mostly forested and contains the creek in a broad and deeply incised, well-established valley. The channel through this area has a slope of about 1.3 percent and there is approximately 6,600 feet of Class 2 stream. Elevation ranges from sea level to about 420 feet. Significant overbank flooding may occur along this channel reach. Due to the steep valley walls, most development has occurred along the upper fringes of this subbasin.

# Shinglemill Creek Subbasin 2

Shinglemill Creek Subbasin 2 covers 310 acres and represents the drainage area of a tributary to Shinglemill Creek. Except for the ravine created by the tributary, this subbasin is relatively flat. There is approximately 2,200 feet of Class 2 stream. Much of the flat area has been cleared for agriculture and other development. Elevation varies from about 120 feet to about 400 feet. Minor residential streets lie within the subbasin. Just outside the subbasin boundary are Vashon Highway SW and SW 156th Street.

#### Shinglemill Creek Subbasin 3

Shinglemill Creek Subbasin 3 is 419 acres and covers about the center third of the basin. Shinglemill Creek flows through the center of this subbasin through a deep valley of about 140 feet. There is approximately 5,000 feet of Class 2 stream in Subbasin 3. Outside the valley, the subbasin rises slowly to the basin divide on the east and west. Toward the upper end of the subbasin, the creek rises rapidly and the deep valley disappears. Elevation varies from 140 feet to about 420 feet. The central third of the subbasin, primarily around the creek corridor, is forested. The rest of the subbasin has been largely cleared for agriculture and other development. 115th Avenue SW passes through the eastern portion of the subbasin. The channel slope through this area averages about 1.9 percent.

## Shinglemill Creek Subbasin 4

Shinglemill Creek Subbasin 4 is 801 acres and is the most southern portion of the basin, representing the headwaters of Shinglemill Creek. A wetland and pond area, identified as Frenchmans Pond, is the upper limit of Shinglemill Creek. Major roads through this subbasin include 115th Avenue SW and SW Cove Road. The topography of this subbasin is relatively flat, with the creek forming a small channel. The elevation varies from 240 feet to 420 feet. Of the four subbasins forming the Shinglemill Creek watershed, this subbasin has the greatest removal of trees for agriculture and other development. There is

approximately 5,200 feet of Class 2 stream in this subbasin. The channel slope through this area averages about 1.6 percent.

#### 2.1.2 Stream Reaches

Judd Creek and Shinglemill Creek were divided into four and three segments, respectively, for use in the HSPF model of the basins. Judd Creek in Subbasin 1 was divided into three segments to represent its channel variability through that subbasin. These three segments were assigned the HSPF reference numbers ("RCHRES" numbers) of 100, 200 and 300 (from downstream to upstream). The wetland area in Subbasin 3 was designated RCHRES 400 and modeled using HEC-RAS, with the culvert under 115th Avenue SW as the downstream control. The other channel segments used compound channel sections with normal flow assumptions.

In Shinglemill Creek, one segment was defined per subbasin, except in Subbasin 2, which contains a tributary to Shinglemill Creek and for which no channel segment was modeled. All channel segments represent the main stem of Judd Creek. The channel segments used compound channel sections with normal flow assumptions to estimate channel routing characteristics.

Channel geometry for each RCHRES was defined based on available information, including topographic mapping and a site visit. No field survey was conducted to determine actual cross-section. Table 2-2 summarizes key information for each segment. Figures 2-3 and 2-4 depict the RCHRES routing and subbasin inflows used in the Judd Creek and Shinglemill Creek HSPF models, respectively.

#### 2.2 LAND COVER ANALYSIS

Adolfson Associates used GIS analysis to compute the pervious (PERLND) and impervious (IMPLND) land cover area in each subbasin for the HSPF model. Figure 2-2 shows the 2001 land cover information. The pervious input parameter represents a composite of land cover type, soils, and topography. The impervious areas are based on an effective impervious area (EIA) being applied to each of the land cover types. All data used was provided by King County. Data shape files used to compile land surface types were clipped to the boundaries of the Judd Creek and Shinglemill Creek subbasins.

#### 2.2.1 Land Cover

Land cover in the basins includes the following categories:

- Urban/High Density Developed
- Mixed Urban/Low Density Developed
- Water
- Bare Earth
- Conifer Forest

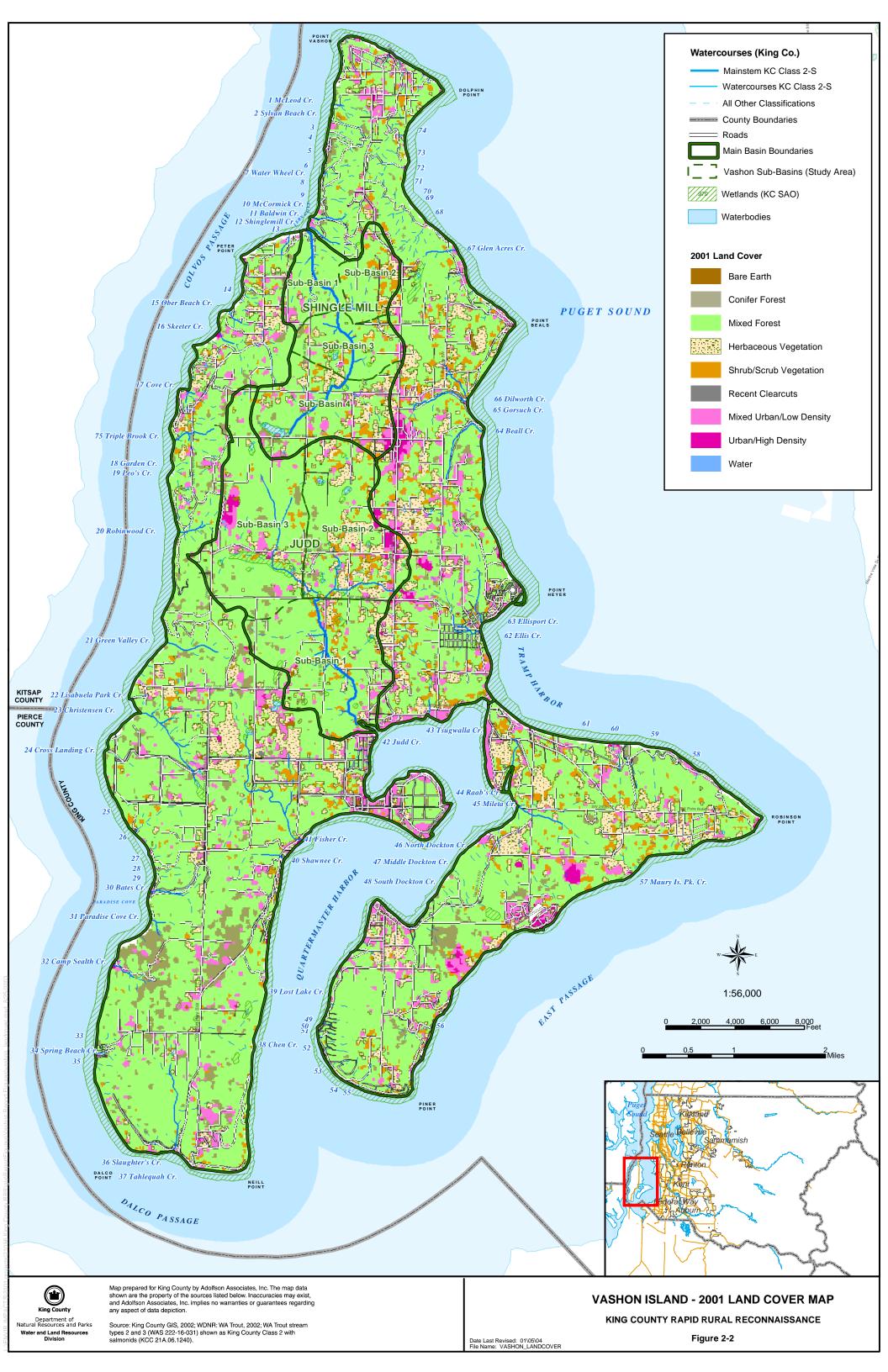


TABLE 2-2. JUDD AND SHINGLEMILL CREEK RCHRES CHARACTERISTICS								
RCHRES Primary Channel								
Number	Subbasin	Geometry (feet) <sup>a</sup>	Notes <sup>b</sup>					
Judd Creek								
100	1	3x8x1						
200	1	3x10x1						
300	1	2x5x1						
400	3	4x2x1	Wetland floodplain storage included					
Shinglemill (	Creek							
100	1	3x34x1	Broad floodplain included in channel cross-section					
300	3	0.5x4x0						
400	4	1x4x1						
4								

- a. Compound channel sections were used. The low-flow channel portion is summarized here. It is a trapezoidal channel, whose dimensions represent depth, base width and side-slope ratio (horizontal to vertical).
- b. If required, all channels were extended to convey predicted flood flows by extended the side slopes with the exception of the noted channels where field observation indicated likely significant floodplain storage.

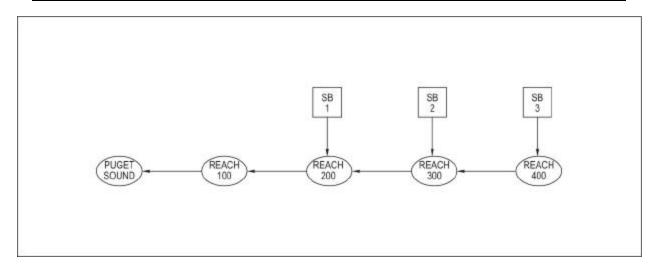


Figure 2-3. Judd Creek Graphic Representation of RCHRES Routing

- Deciduous Forest
- Mixed Forest
- Recent Regenerated Forest
- Recent Clear Cut
- Herbaceous Vegetation
- Shrub/Scrub Vegetation

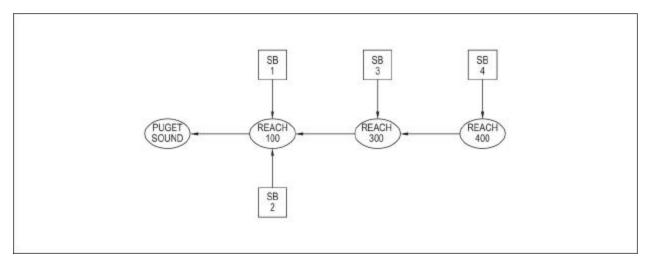


Figure 2-4. Shinglemill Creek Graphic Representation of RCHRES Routing

The GIS land cover types were converted to equivalent HSPF classifications using the equivalencies shown in Table 2-3, which was provided by King County. Table 2-4 lists the EIA defined for each land cover type, as provided by King County and modified by the design team to represent characteristics of the Vashon Island drainage basins.

Future-condition impervious area was determined by assuming full development to the density allowed by existing zoning. Table 2-5 lists the EIA for each zoning category, as provided by King County. The zoning map is shown in Figure 2-5.

## 2.2.2 Soils

Table 2-6 lists the GIS soil type and the associated HSPF soil type. The soils map is shown in Figure 2-6. GIS soils data was verified by checking it against the hard copy NRCS Soil Survey maps.

### 2.2.3 Topography

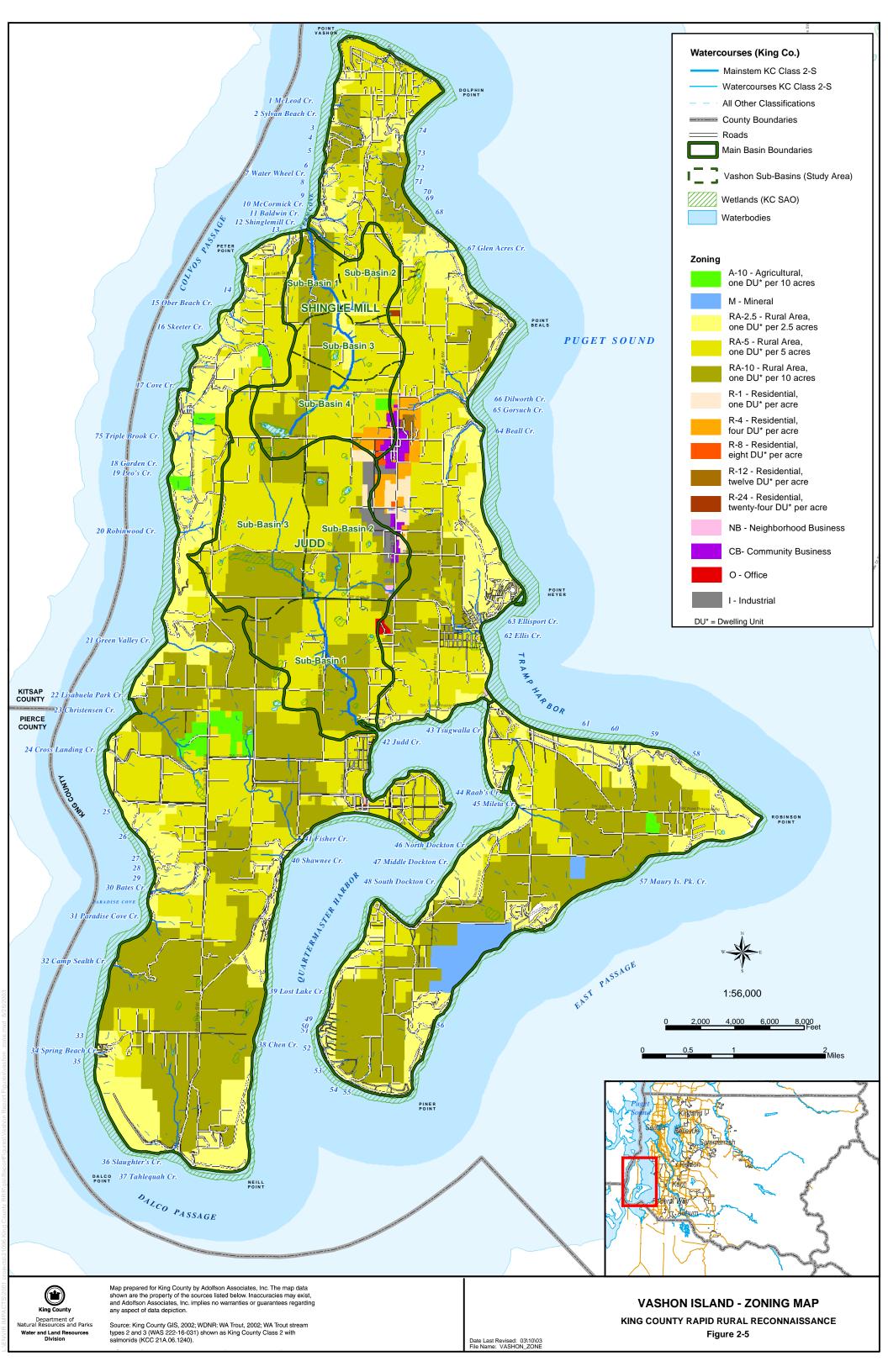
Table 2-7 correlates the percent slope provided by King County to an equivalent HSPF slope category. Topography is shown in Figure 2-7.

# 2.2.4 GIS Analysis

GIS overlay analysis of land cover, soil and slope was used to generate an HSPF land surface type layer. The HSPF land surface type layer was then overlaid with the Judd Creek and Shinglemill Creek subbasin layer.

There is a potential for 165 unique land surface types (combinations of land cover, soil type and slope). Table 2-8 summarizes the number of unique land surface types in each subbasin. The types were aggregated into the 13 HSPF land surface types listed in Table 2-9.

TABLE 2-3. LAND COVER TYPE EQUIVALENCY FOR HSPF					
Land Cover Type	HSPF Pervious Land Cover Type				
Urban/High Density Developed	90% Grass & 10% Forest				
Mixed Urban/Low Density Developed	90% Grass & 10% Forest				
Bare Earth	Grass				
Conifer Forest	Forest				
Deciduous Forest	Forest				
Mixed Forest Forest					
Herbaceous Vegetation Pasture					
Shrub/Scrub Vegetation	Pasture				
Sinub/Scrub vegetation	1 asture				



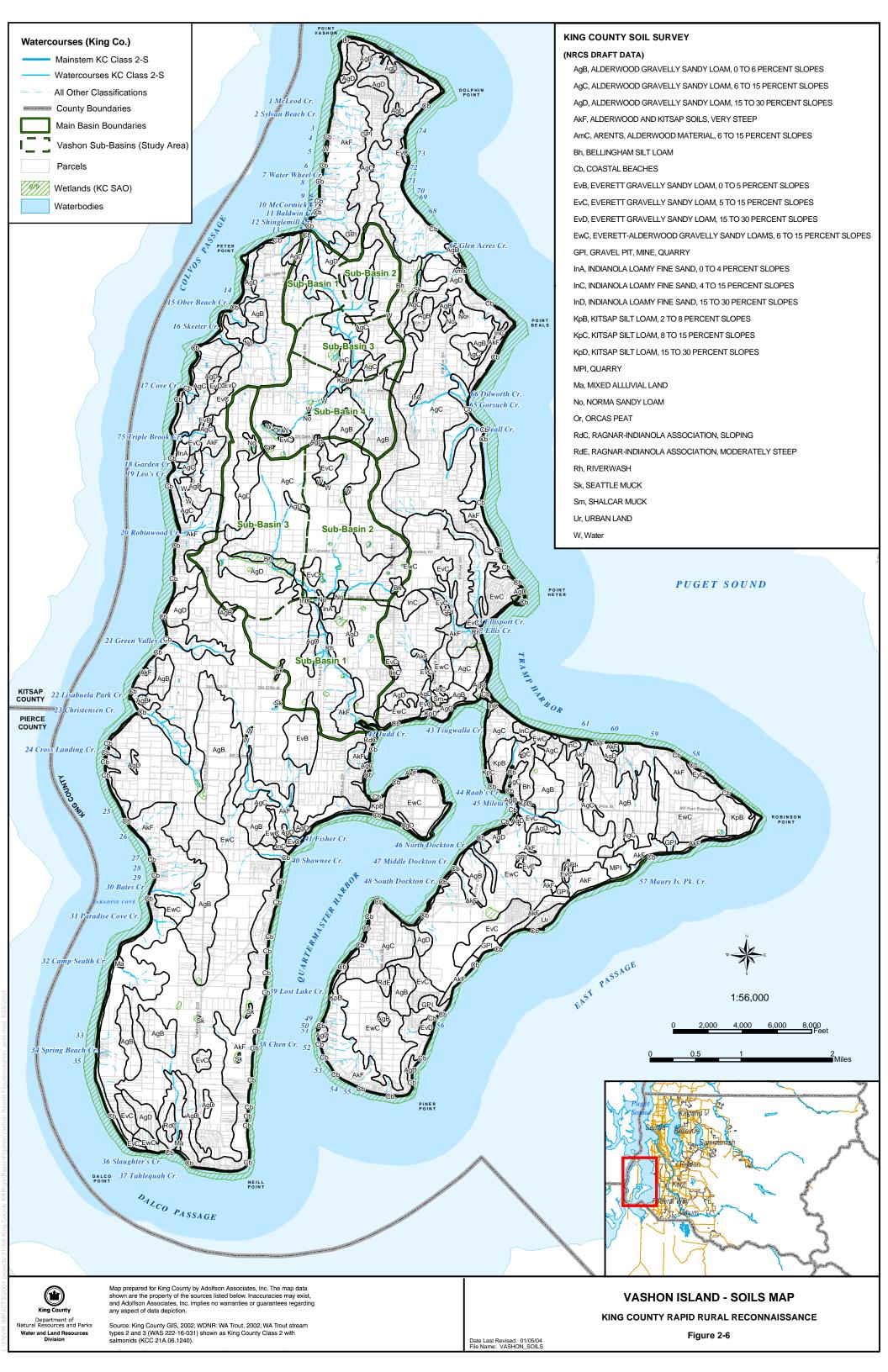




TABLE 2-4. EFFECTIVE IMPERVIOUS AREA ASSIGNMENT						
Land Cover Type	EIA					
Urban/High Density Developed	75%					
Mixed Urban/Low Density Developed	8%					
Bare Earth	3%					
Conifer Forest	0.5%					
Deciduous Forest	0.5%					
Mixed Forest	0.5%					
Recent Clearcuts	2%					
Recent Regenerated Forest	1%					
Herbaceous Vegetation	1%					
Shrub/Scrub Vegetation	1%					
Water	100%					

For the predevelopment condition, it was assumed that the entire basin was forested, with the exception of open water, and that all HSPF soil and slope types are the same as for existing conditions. An EIA of 0 percent was applied to all land surface types except open water that was assigned an EIA of 100 percent. Predevelopment wetland areas were based on HSPF soil types classified as saturated.

Tables 2-10, 2-11 and 2-12 summarize land surface types for predevelopment, existing, and future conditions, respectively. For the future condition, it was assumed that sensitive areas (wetlands, salmon bearing streams, steep slopes, etc.) and their buffers would not be developed. For these areas, EIA values for 2001 land cover were applied. For areas outside of sensitive areas, EIA values for zoning categories described above were applied. In areas zoned Rural-Residential (RA-2.5, RA-5 and RA-10), an assumption of 10 percent forest cover retention under future conditions was applied prior to calculating future EIA.

TABLE 2-5. EFFECTIVE IMPERVIOUS AREA BY ZONING CODE					
Zoning Code	Description	EIA			
A-10	Agriculture – 10 ac lot	1.0%			
A-35	Agriculture – 35 ac lot	1.0%			
F	Forest	0.0%			
M	Mineral	30.0%			
RA-2.5	Rural Area – 2.5 ac lot size	4.0%			
RA-5	Rural Area – 5 ac lot size	4.0%			
RA-10	Rural Area – 10 ac lot size	2.0%			
UR	Urban Reserve	10.0%			
R-1	Urban Residential – 1 du/ac	4.0%			
R-4	Urban Residential – 4 du/ac	26.4%			
R-6	Urban Residential – 6 du/ac	33.0%			
R-8	Urban Residential – 8 du/ac	48.0%			
NB	Neighborhood Business	85.0%			
СВ	Community Business	85.0%			
RB	Regional Business	85.0%			
О	Office	85.0%			
I	Industrial	85.0%			
ROW	Right-of-way	85.0%			

TABLE 2-6. SOIL TYPE TRANSFORMATION FOR HSPF						
Soil Name (NRCS Soils)	HSPF Soil Type					
Alderwood And Kitsap Soils	Till					
Alderwood Gravelly Sandy Loam	Till					
Alderwood Gravelly Sandy Loam	Till					
Alderwood Gravelly Sandy Loam	Till					
Bellingham Silt Loam	Till					
Coastal Beaches	Saturated					
Everett Gravelly Sandy Loam, 0 to 5% Slopes	Outwash					
Everett Gravelly Sandy Loam, 5 to 15% Slopes	Outwash					
Everett-Alderwood Gravelly Sandy Loams, 6 to 15% Slopes	Outwash					
Indianola Loamy Fine Sand, 0 to 4% Slopes	Outwash					
Indianola Loamy Fine Sand, 15 to 30% Slopes	Outwash					
Indianola Loamy Fine Sand, 4 to 15% Slopes	Outwash					
Kitsap Silt Loam, 2 to 8% Slopes	Till					
Norma Sandy Loam	Till					
Orcas Peat	Saturated					
Ragnar-Indianola Association, Sloping	Outwash					
Riverwash	Saturated					
Seattle Muck	Saturated					
Water	Water					

TABLE 2-7. SLOPE CATEGORY EQUIVALENCY FOR HSPF					
Percent Slope HSPF Slope					
0-10	Flat				
10-20 Moderate					
20-30 Steep					
30-40	Steep				
>=40 Steep					
no data	Moderate				

TABLE 2-8. NUMBER OF UNIQUE LAND SURFACE TYPES							
Subbasin	Number of HSPF Land Surface Types						
Judd Creek Basin							
1	39						
2	27						
3	3 27						
Shinglemill Creek B	Shinglemill Creek Basin						
1	17						
2	14						
3	26						
4	25						

TABLE 2-9. LAND SURFACE TYPES FOR HSPF					
HSPF Category	Description				
TF/Mild	Till Forest Mild Slope				
TF/Moderate	Till Forest Moderate Slope				
TF/Steep	Till Forest Steep Slope				
TG/Mild	Till Grass Mild Slope				
TG/Moderate	Till Grass Moderate Slope				
TG/Steep	Till Grass Steep Slope				
OF	Outwash Forest				
OP/Mild	Outwash Pasture Mild Slope				
OP/Moderate	Outwash Pasture Moderate Slope				
OP/Steep	Outwash Pasture Steep Slope				
OG	Outwash Grass				
Saturated	Wetlands				
Impervious	Impervious				

0

Total 1,080.25

5.70

998.14

0

1,213.71

EIA

TABLE 2-10. PREDEVELOPED LAND SURFACE SUMMARY BY SUBBASIN									
				A	Area (acres)				
		Judd Cre	ek Basin			Shing	glemill Creek	Basin	
Land Surface	1	2	3	Total	1	2	3	4	Total
TF/Mild	266.93	817.86	761.25	1,846.04	124.67	258.89	309.55	743.90	1,437.01
TF/Moderate	191.84	25.50	176.84	394.18	88.52	28.56	43.58	33.49	194.15
TF/Steep	40.18	0	5.55	45.73	101.69	22.94	44.55	0	169.18
OF	568.97	149.08	270.07	988.12	0	0	20.56	7.08	27.64
Saturated	12.33	0	0	12.33	0.65	0	0	12.61	13.26

5.70

3,292.10

0

315.53

0

310.39

0.32

418.56

4.29

801.37

4.61

1,845.85

		EXISTING	(2001) LAN	TABLE 2- ID SURFACE		RY BY SUB	BASIN			
		Area (acres)								
		Judd Cr	eek Basin			Shing	lemill Creek	Basin		
Land Surface	1	2	3	Total	1	2	3	4	Total	
TF/Mild	154.74	487.97	636.55	1,279.26	95.13	170.33	236.73	455.38	957.57	
TF/Moderate	169.53	15.17	148.12	332.82	86.95	27.59	42.15	24.18	180.87	
TF/Steep	36.93	0	5.19	42.12	100.40	22.49	43.02	0	165.91	
TP/Mild	88.59	262.19	54.18	404.96	8.00	76.46	55.00	193.68	333.14	
TP/Moderate	14.89	9.94	11.44	36.27	0.97	0.76	1.07	3.94	6.74	
TP/Steep	2.90	0	0	2.90	0.51	0.30	1.29	0	2.10	
TG/Mild	19.46	43.77	49.95	113.18	19.14	9.54	14.03	73.62	116.33	
TG/Moderate	5.84	0.20	14.60	20.64	0.13	0.07	0.12	4.59	4.91	
TG/Steep	0.13	0	0.31	0.44	0.26	0.05	0	0	0.31	
OF	493.42	81.19	250.14	824.75	0	0	8.82	5.54	14.36	
OP/Mild	30.91	43.26	1.76	75.93	0	0	6.86	0.73	7.59	
OP/Moderate	16.27	0.20	3.97	20.44	0	0	2.18	0	2.18	
OP/Steep	0.35	0	0	0.35	0	0	0.90	0	0.90	
OG	22.71	20.34	11.76	54.81	0	0	1.49	0.71	2.20	
Saturated	12.26	0	0	12.26	0.61	0	0	12.43	13.04	
EIA	11.28	33.91	25.72	70.91	3.43	2.80	4.90	26.57	37.70	
Total	1,080.25	998.14	1,213.71	3,292.10	315.53	310.39	418.56	801.37	1,845.85	

	F	UTURE BU	JILDOUT LA	TABLE 2- AND SURFA		ARY BY SU	JBBASIN			
		Area (acres)								
		Judd Cr	eek Basin			Shing	glemill Creek	Basin		
Zoning	1	2	3	Total	1	2	3	4	Total	
A-10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12.07	12.07	
RA-2.5	8.27	0	5.18	13.45	18.31	20.80	38.65	0	77.76	
RA-5	451.89	473.07	686.61	1,611.56	73.80	251.79	235.43	420.12	981.14	
RA-10	484.32	257.74	372.99	1,115.05	170.69	0	81.82	190.52	443.03	
R1	0	36.79	0	36.79	0	0	0	1.74	1.74	
R4	0	8.23	0	8.23	0	0	0	41.70	41.70	
R8	0	1.07	0	1.07	0	0	0	11.30	11.30	
NB	0	3.64	0	3.64	0	0	0	0	0	
СВ	0	9.45	0	9.45	0	0	0	16.29	16.29	
О	3.70	0	0	3.70	0	0	0	0	0	
I	0	82.82	0	82.82	0	0	0	0	0	
ROW	26.27	33.05	32.30	91.62	8.07	8.03	7.97	33.53	57.60	
Sensitive Areas	105.80	92.27	116.64	314.71	44.80	29.77	54.69	74.09	203.35	
Total	1,080.25	998.14	1,213.71	3292.10	315.53	310.39	418.56	801.37	1,845.85	
EIA (included in above zoning	51.75	137.41	61.38	250.54	13.63	17.14	19.01	79.33	129.11	

## 2.2.5 Riparian Corridor Land Cover Analysis

categories)

A 200-foot-wide stream riparian corridor, shown in Figure 2-8, was analyzed using GIS data for existing land use. Table 2-13 summarizes the existing land cover within this corridor by subbasin. Future land cover in the corridor was not analyzed because it was not feasible to accurately predict the spatial distribution of future development in and along the corridor. It is assumed that sensitive-area regulations will protect the stream corridor in the future.

## 2.3 Conclusions and Recommendations

Basin characteristics were derived from GIS data provided by King County. The effective impervious area was derived from a range of values provided by the County based on land use or zoning. In order to develop a more accurate representation of cover types and EIA it is recommended that this information be developed from current orthophotos of the basin that could be digitized and specific areas computed.

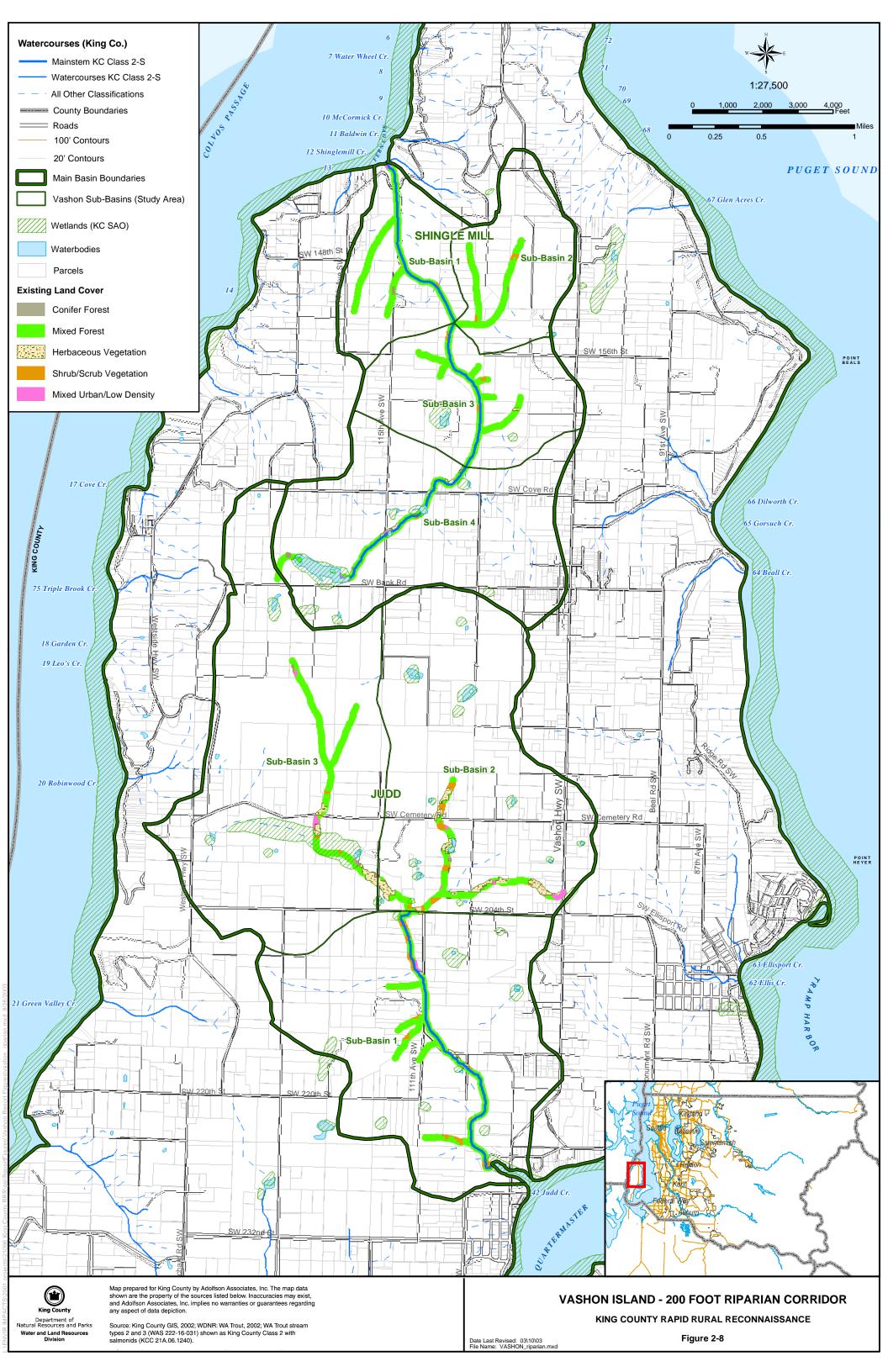


TABLE 2-13.
EXISTING (2001) LAND SURFACE SUMMARY BY SUBBASIN FOR 200-FOOT RIPARIAN CORRIDOR

Land Cover Type	Area (acres)							
	Judd Creek Basin			Shinglemill Creek Basin				
	1	2	3	1	2	3	4	Total
Coniferous Forest	_	_	0.39	0.01	_	_	0.76	1.16
Herbaceous Forest	1.78	3.29	5.18	_	_	_	2.80	13.05
Mixed Forest	33.53	4.15	28.30	23.58	0.11	19.88	26.99	136.54
Mixed Urban/Low Density	0.54	0.02	2.00	0.72	_		2.45	5.73
Scrub/Shrub	5.43	0.41	0.86	0.22		0.83	1.68	9.43
Total	41.28	7.87	36.73	24.53	0.11	20.71	34.68	165.91